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Typhoon Series 2017, Race 6

## PRESS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

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### HHYC UK Sailmakers Typhoon Series 2017, Races 8 & 9

The penultimate and final races of the UK Sailmakers Typhoon Series 2017 were held on Saturday, the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 2017, inside Port Shelter. Under clear skies and an 8-knot easterly breeze, race officer Lesley Anderson set two short windward / leewards for the seven fleets and had all 57 boats away at five-minute intervals — IRC Divisions A & B starting at 1400 and the last, HKPN Division B, at 1415 — for Race 8.

The top marks — one at 1.0nm (with an offset mark for the faster boats) and the other at 0.8nm — had the leaders beating hard with Frank Pong's *Jelik* first to round followed by *Lighthouse Alpha+* snapping at its heels. No quarter was given as the big boats fought for advantage, raising their kites and rounding the offset for the run to the committee boat. Not long after came the Division B fleet, Sports Boats, J-80s and clusters of Division C contenders.

Etched against the magnificent backdrop of Ma On Shan, the IRC A boats were soon rounding the bottom mark and heading back up into the building breeze. By this time, the HKPN A and B fleets had reached their mark and the afternoon breeze had risen to around 12 knots.

Winner of IRC A was *Lighthouse Alpha+*, IRC B was *Seawolf*, IRC C was the veteran *Moll*, Sports Boats was *FAB*, J-80s was *Footloose*, while *Kiasu!* and *Scrumpy* took HKPN A and B respectively.



Without further ado, the Hebe Haven Yacht Club's Rob Allen began the countdowns for Race 9 at 1530. The bigger boats were given three laps and the slower boats, two. As the fleets reached their marks, there was plenty of calling and some aggressive jostling, with the water churned up and spray flying.

This time it was *Otonomos Mandrake III* that took the honours in IRC A, followed by *Zannekin* and *Ambush*. In IRC B, once again *Seawolf* excelled and in IRC C, *Red Kite II* prevailed ahead of *Whiskey Jack*.

*FAB* made it a double in the Sports Boats, *Jive* won the J-80s, with *No One Else* and *Pepper & Salt* taking HKPN A and B respectively. *Sleepy Piggy* surprised all by showing that perseverance may not win you the race but it can get you a creditable 3<sup>rd</sup> in HKPN B.

Almost fittingly, the series ended with a typhoon (Pakhar) and, sadly, a postponed prizegiving. Further, the race committee thought it best not to reveal the overall results until 1930 on Friday, the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2017 in the Garden Bar at the Hebe Haven Yacht Club.